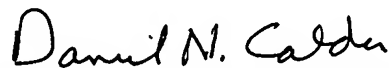


Remarks/Arguments:

By this Preliminary Amendment, the specification and the abstract have been amended to place the application in better condition for examination and allowance. Claims 1 through 13 have been amended and claims 14 through 20 have been added to avoid multiply dependent claims, remove element numbers, and otherwise comply with the requirements and standards of U.S. Patent and Trademark Office practice. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and issuance of a first action on the merits are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel N. Calder, Reg. No. 27,424
Attorney for Applicant

DNC/mhs

Attachments: Abstract
Specification showing changes
Specification (clean version)

Dated: August 14, 2006

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith..

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I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Dennis McDermott